

TIME EXTENDED FOR PAYMENT OF WAR TAXES

Shortage of Stamps Necessitates Special Ruling at Washington.

COLLECTORS' OFFICES BESIEGED BY CROWDS

The temporary shortage of the new war tax stamps due to last minute buying by large and small taxpayers and the record breaking crowds which descended like avalanches on the offices of collectors of internal revenue yesterday necessitated a special ruling by W. H. Osborn, Commissioner of Internal Revenue at Washington, to deal with the unprecedented situation. It was telegraphed to all collectors after the office in this city and elsewhere had sent requisitionary telegrams to Washington for supplies of the new stamps as fast as the Government engraving department could produce them.

"By a special ruling of Mr. Osborn," said Collector Charles W. Anderson at the Custom House, "I will date all special tax returns November 30, thus relieving them of the penalties until such time as the office is able to handle applications promptly, except in cases where I find the special taxpayer has made no effort to file his return prior to that day."

"In all cases where merchants are unable to obtain documentary stamps for bills of lading this office will permit shippers to go forward providing the shipper shall keep a careful record of the same; the stamps can be affixed or cancelled when received. This ought to relieve completely the railroads and other shippers."

Long Lines in Waiting.

That such a ruling would be necessary to prevent a general stamp shortage in business, especially shipping by railroads and other carriers, was evident to the internal revenue collectors when they reached their offices in the morning and saw lines ranging from hundreds to thousands of people waiting to buy stamps which they could not get on Monday or to file late tax returns or get information.

The extension of time by the Commissioner, however, did not relieve many shippers of perfume, cosmetics and other similar articles subject to the stamp tax, who are required to place a stamp on every packet, box, bottle, pot or vial.

Never before have the offices of collectors of internal revenue been swamped to such an extent as they were yesterday. The long lines of stamp seekers did not seem to diminish by a single man from before 8 o'clock in the morning until late in the afternoon, and at several offices hundreds were turned away at the closing hour. Collector Anderson had to call for police aid in the afternoon when hundreds of people gathered outside, usually irritated by the long wait, became disorderly.

At the office of Collector Frederick L. Marshall the trouble was more formal. All day long the line of applicants had extended from the office of the collector at Third Avenue and Sixteenth Street completely around the block to Seventeenth Street and back to the entrance. A score of policemen kept the stamp purchasers in order until word got out some way that the collector would not ship stamps until 1 o'clock unless a rush shipment of stamps arrived. The police passed this word along and the line broke up.

Small Sized Riot.

Then as quickly it was announced that the office would open again at 4:30 and in a moment everybody who had been in line wanted his original place back. The result was a small sized riot which took fifteen minutes and during which many men to quarrel. There was a long continuous line in Brooklyn also.

Between the two office forces in Manhattan at the Custom House and Third Avenue and Sixteenth Street—more than 10,000 applicants were handled by special forces of men and women.

Most of the difficulty seemed to be in getting enough stamps to meet the demand of the last few days, because most people waited until the last day to get their supplies. There are nearly fifty varieties of stamps, ranging from a cent to \$100 and some higher than that. Each one requires a special die and the pasters are being sent here as fast as they can be turned out. When in the morning their application must be made by the purchaser in writing on white, yellow or blue slips, according as he wants stamps for wines and cordials or documentary or proprietary stamps.

There are five kinds of stamps for wines and cordials ranging from 1 cent to \$2; nineteen kinds for documentary stamps, from 1 cent to \$100; and five kinds for proprietary stamps, from 1 cent to 5 cents. The name of the purchaser has to be entered by the clerks in the book, and the office and the stamps purchased totaled and the fractions balanced. This caused great delay and confusion.

Delays Cause Irritation.

One of the delays caused by the stamp shortage which created most irritation with the new law occurred in the filing of legal papers in the County Clerk's office. Lawyers and clerks began to arrive with unstamped legal papers for filing as early as 9 o'clock and expressed their resentment openly when they found no stamps there to satisfy the provision of the law. County Clerk William F. Schneider said that he had a mass sampling on the collectors to stop delay to buy stamps yesterday morning as soon as the first batch was obtainable, but he did not get them in time.

The Western Union Telegraph Company announced yesterday that the new internal revenue stamps cannot be used by senders to pay the tax on telegrams, which must be collected from the sender in cash and turned over to the government by the company. The company's statement said:

"Stamps cannot be used to pay the tax on telegrams. The act providing for additional internal revenue taxes requires telegraph companies to collect on behalf of the government a tax of 1 cent in addition to the regular charges for each telegram filed for transmission over their lines. The person paying for the message pays the tax to the telegraph company and the telegraph company in turn pays the tax to the government."

"Therefore, revenue stamps purchased from the government cannot be used to pay the tax on telegrams. The telegraph companies must collect the tax in cash and cannot accept revenue stamps attached to messages in lieu of the cash. In the case of telegraph customers having charge accounts a separate charge for the tax will be made on their monthly bills."

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LEDYARD ON STAND AT TRIAL OF LAMAR

Testifies Concerning Telephone Talks With "Congressman P."

JURY QUICKLY OBTAINED

Keen amusement, varying from a playful pucker of his black, curving eyebrows to a hearty chuckle, marked the demeanor of David O. Lamar, the defendant in the "Wolf of Wall Street," as he listened yesterday to the testimony of Lewis Cass Ledyard against him.

It was the first day before Judge Sessions of Lamar's trial on the charge of seeking to defraud J. P. Morgan & Co. and the United States Steel Corporation by impersonating Congressman A. Mitchell Palmer and getting Mr. Ledyard, known to the public as "Wolf of Wall Street," to testify of Edward Ledyard to seek the help of Edward Ledyard to prevent an investigation of the Steel Corporation.

The selection of jurors was accomplished in less than an hour.

Mr. Ledyard was placed on the stand first, but as Representative Palmer was on hand and was eager to get back to Washington he was substituted. Mr. Palmer testified he never had called on Mr. Ledyard, but that Mr. Ledyard and on one occasion called him up and asked him, Mr. Palmer, had at any time telephoned to him.

Then the way was clear for Mr. Ledyard's testimony. In beginning he told of his acquaintance with many years with the late J. P. Morgan. He said he never had met Lamar face to face until the summer of 1913.

Mr. Ledyard testified that when in his office on February 4, 1913, he was told "Congressman P." was on the telephone and wished to speak to him. He took the receiver and the man at the other end of the line asked if he, Ledyard, knew "Congressman P." Mr. Ledyard did not and it was necessary for the voice to spell the name of the witness.

"The witness went on, 'that he understood that I was fully aware of the plans of my people, referring to the Steel Corporation, but I told him I did not represent the better of Lamar. He explained that he had attended a conference of the Democratic leaders in Congress and knew what they were doing in formulating their policies for the coming Administration.'"

"Congressman P." the witness continued, "then explained that the attacks on the Morgan interests had come from a belief on the part of the controlling members of Congress that the Morgan interests were defunct. The voice suggested that if this impression was erroneous, the sooner it was corrected the better. Mr. Ledyard wished to know how the man at the other end of the telephone got that information, and the voice replied, 'Well, I wouldn't be likely to give you information from Speaker himself.'"

On February 5 the same man called up again, the witness testified, and made inquiries as to the relation between Lamar and the Steel Corporation. Mr. Ledyard told him he possessed their correspondence to a certain degree. When Mr. Ledyard said he was perturbed over that exhibition of defiance and suggested that Mr. Ledyard call in Edward Ledyard and learn all he could from him. Mr. Ledyard said he did not get them directly, but through Senator Stone, that Senator Stone had taken the matter up with Mr. Ledyard, and the voice urged Mr. Ledyard to get into communication with Mr. Ledyard at once.

When Mr. Ledyard arrived at Mr. Ledyard's home that afternoon, according to the witness, Mr. Ledyard said he had been authorized by Senator Stone to act as intermediary between the Morgan firm and the Steel Corporation on one hand and Speaker Clark on the other. Mr. Ledyard said he was authorized to make certain statements and asked if ranging from a cent to \$100 and some higher than that. Each one requires a special die and the pasters are being sent here as fast as they can be turned out. When in the morning their application must be made by the purchaser in writing on white, yellow or blue slips, according as he wants stamps for wines and cordials or documentary or proprietary stamps.

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Gardner at White House Takes Issue With Wilson

Gives Out a Statement Declaring That the President "Means to Lay the Cold Hand of Death" on National Defence Inquiry.

WILSON SAYS HIS STAND IS NOT "INDIFFERENT"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—President Wilson refused to disclose his attitude today toward Representative Gardner's resolution for a Congressional inquiry into the preparedness of the United States for war. The President did not verify statements which have been put forward as having official origin that he is opposed to the proposed inquiry.

The President's friends do not believe that an inquiry of such a character as the Gardner resolution proposes will be needed to establish the facts of the situation. It is believed to be the President's idea that the sub-committee on fortifications of the House committee, of which Mr. Sherley of Kentucky is chairman, may be relied on to make inquiries as to the adequacy of the coast defenses and that the Military Affairs Committee of the House will make similar inquiries into the condition of the army.

The President realizes that it will be impossible to avoid a discussion of the Gardner resolution on the floor of the House and preparations are now under way to deal with the controversy. Representative Sherley will be the spokesman of the Administration in these debates. He will be supported by chairman Hay of the Military Affairs Committee and Chairman Padgett of the Naval Affairs Committee.

Mr. Sherley's Attitude.

Mr. Sherley, who conferred with the President today, feels that the coast defenses are inadequate to hold off the naval forces of any power.

Mr. Gardner also went to the White House to see Secretary Tamm about an engagement with the President to discuss the matter. While there Mr. Gardner gave out a statement in which he said he was afraid the President intended to block the movement for an inquiry.

When Mr. Gardner's statement became known the White House immediately made public a letter from President Wilson to the Massachusetts Representative dated November 26, which is as follows:

MY DEAR MR. GARDNER: I have your letter of November 23, for which I thank you.

It is true that the President has not yet decided whether or not to call for an inquiry into the preparedness of the United States for war. But the President is not indifferent to the matter. He is giving it his most careful consideration. He is not, as you say, "laying the cold hand of death" on the inquiry. He is simply giving it the time and attention it deserves.

Very truly yours,
Woodrow Wilson

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I thank you. You may be sure that I do not have an attitude of indifference to the great subject you broach, but I would like very much to have a conference with you before the resolution you have in mind is offered, in order to present my views more fully than is possible in a letter.

Mr. Gardner's Statement.

Mr. Gardner's statement was as follows: "I am very much afraid that the President means to lay the cold hand of death on the whole movement, if he can. I am a little surprised that the President believed that the mere fact of our giving the question of our armament a thorough hearing would disqualify us as the referee whenever this war is over. It seems to me that building a brace of super-dreadnoughts sounds even more warlike than an investigation."

"As the President's suggestion to Congress against adopting my resolution of inquiry because I denounced German militarism as a menace to democracy, I am sure that the President has arranged in the usual way, 'chairman Henry can introduce his own resolution and the commission can be composed exclusively of men who have not revealed their opinions as between Germany and the Allies.'"

"I have asked the President's permission to bring a few gentlemen with me when I receive him. We shall ask him first to reconsider his opposition; second, to encourage a square vote and may vote in Congress on this question; and third, to permit certain army and navy officers without hampering instructions to accept my invitation to testify before the Committee on Rules."

The trouble with Secretary Garrison's plan of circulating a summons from the Rules Committee is that it is probably the very last that the committee would do if the President puts his foot down. "While he was at the White House," Mr. Gardner left his answer to the President's letter. The answer is said to be vigorously phrased. Mr. Gardner has made no engagement to confer with the President today for an absence which will probably exceed a week.

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CROSEY UNDER FIRE BY BAR ASSOCIATION

Called Before the Committee to Explain Speech on "Hand Picked" Justices.

District Attorney James C. Crosey of Kings was called before a committee of the Brooklyn Bar Association, headed by Edgar M. Cullen, formerly Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, yesterday to explain his statement that "Justices of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn were 'hand picked,' and 'lap friends' of Edward M. Groot, against whom indictments are pending."

The hearing was private. It began in the rooms of the Brooklyn Bar Association, 158 Montague Street, at 4 P. M., and lasted until nearly 7 o'clock last night. It was said after the meeting that another private hearing would be held within a few days and that public hearings might follow.

Robert H. Elder, Assistant District Attorney under Mr. Crosey's predecessor, who made the motion for the hearings in the Brooklyn Bar Association, was present, presumably to cross-question Mr. Crosey.

Judge Cullen asked Mr. Crosey to read a statement he had prepared in defense of his "hand picked" Justice speech made in October at a dinner of the Fulton Street Board of Trade. Mr. Crosey's statement took two hours to read, and was mainly an amplification of his reply to Supreme Court Justice Benedict's rebuke which was published in THE SUN on November 15.

Mr. Crosey will attempt to prove that what he told the Fulton Street Board of Trade was true, and it may be that before the hearings are finished several Supreme Court Justices will appear before the committee as witnesses.

After reading his statement Mr. Crosey answered questions for another hour. The committee consists, beside Judge Cullen, of Sanford H. Steele, Col. James D. Bell, Col. Albert E. Lamb and Meier Steinbrink.

McCLELLAN SEES DILEMMA.

Says We Soon Must Fight for Monroe Doctrine or Back Down.

PRINCETON, N. J., Dec. 1.—Prof. George H. McClellan told the International Dolly Club to-night that no matter who wins in the White House the United States before long will have to abandon the Monroe Doctrine or fight for it. There will be no general disarmament for universal peace, he said, Germany, Italy and Japan will make aggression in South America and Japan, and if she succeeds there she will probably reach out toward Mexico and the Hawaiian Islands on Mexico.

"The fundamental cause of this war," he said, "is the spirit of nationality which has been the inspiration and dominant note in Europe for two centuries. The charge of militarism can be made against all. The colossal military expense has been too great and the result had to be either disarmament or war. The first was impossible, and the question was who could make war first. The people took up arms as nations. It is a people's war, a national war."

Speaking of the Monroe Doctrine he said:

"No matter who wins it is almost certain that at some not far distant date we shall be confronted with the alternative of either abandoning the Monroe Doctrine or fighting to maintain it. We have made it a great national principle, a question of national honor, so that if we abandon it we shall have lost all that we are only a second class power at the mercy of all the swarming bulges of the earth. If we fight for it in our present condition of unpreparedness there can be but one outcome. A triumphant and victorious Germany would have little to fear from us."

WOMEN TO POLICE LONDON.

LONDON, Dec. 1.—The Women's Freedom League has formed a corps of policewomen for duty in the streets, at railway stations and relief depots, and in public parks under the name of the "Women Police Volunteers." Similar organizations have been formed in Manchester, Liverpool, Bolton and Hull.

England, except for a few of the northern cities, has not taken up yet the policewoman idea and the promoters of the present movement hope thereby to popularize the plan.

COMPTROLLER UPHOLDS WYVELL APPOINTMENT

Downey Rules Commission Also Has Authority to Increase Salary.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—The Comptroller of the Treasury, George E. Downey, ruled today that the International Joint Commission had authority to appoint Manton M. Wyvell as counsel to the commission with the approval of the Secretary of State and to pay him a salary of \$5,000 a year out of the lump appropriation for the expenses of the commission. The ruling was announced in a letter to R. H. Glenn, acting chairman of the commission, bearing date of November 30.

Mr. Wyvell's friends took exception today to a statement in THE SUN, under a Washington date line, in regard to Mr. Wyvell's appointment. They produced as a precedent a copy of a letter written by Huntington Wilson, acting Secretary of State, dated March 1, 1912, appointing E. C. Bumpus of Boston attorney for the International Commission at a compensation of \$250 a month, with travelling expenses and a per diem of \$5 for living expenses while in Washington.

Mr. Wyvell's friends insist his appointment means real work and is not a sinecure which Mr. Bryan has conferred on his private secretary. They say that two important questions already have been referred to Mr. Wyvell for legal investigation and upon which he will be required to advise the commission. One relates to the pollution of the great lakes by city sewage and the other to the flow of water of Milk River and St. Mary's River at the international boundary.

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